

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P006473WO NJN	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB 00/ 00785	International filing date (day/month/year) 03/03/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 04/03/1999
Applicant UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :



contained in the international application in written form.



filed together with the international application in computer readable form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.



the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.



the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

DETECTION OF MTOC DISRUPTING SUBSTANCES

5. With regard to the **abstract**,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.



as suggested by the applicant.



because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



because this figure better characterizes the invention.



None of the figures.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 7

The present claim 7 relates to an extremely large number of possible substances. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the substances claimed. In the present case, the claim so lacks support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Also, the substances of claim 7 are characterised in functional terms, whereas in the present case, clarity ex article 6 PCT could have been enhanced by defining said substances in concrete terms, e.g. by disclosing their nomenclature or molecular structure. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claim, which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to substances capable of disrupting microtubule organising centre integrity. For completeness it is noted that it could not be established whether any of the countless number of substances disclosed in the prior art could have exhibited the above noted characteristics, if so tested.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/00785

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01N33/68 A61K45/00 C07K7/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01N A61K C07K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	MEDLINE, Washington DC USA; abstract no. 97296495, whole abstract XP002140154 cited in the application & R.D. SAUNDERS ET AL.: "The Drosophila gene abnormal spindle encodes a novel microtubule-associated protein that associates with the polar regions of the mitotic spindle " JOURNAL OF CELL BIOLOGY, vol. 137, no. 4, 19 May 1997 (1997-05-19), pages 881-890, New York NY USA	8, 10-12, 14
A	---	1-6, 15, 16
	-/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 June 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

29/06/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Van Bohemen, C

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Interr. Application No

PCT/GB 00/00785

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>MEDLINE, Washington DC USA; abstract no. 98120401, abstract lines 14-17 XP002140155 & A BANAN ET AL.: "Protection against ethanol injury by prostaglandin in a human intestinal cell line: role of microtubules "</p> <p>AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHYSIOLOGY, vol. 274, no. 1 PT 1, 1 January 1998 (1998-01-01), pages G111-G121, St. Louis MI USA</p>	7
A	<p>WO 97 06440 A (T.Y. KIM) 20 February 1997 (1997-02-20) claim 1</p>	8,9

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 7

The present claim 7 relates to an extremely large number of possible substances. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the substances claimed. In the present case, the claim so lacks support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Also, the substances of claim 7 are characterised in functional terms, whereas in the present case, clarity ex article 6 PCT could have been enhanced by defining said substances in concrete terms, e.g. by disclosing their nomenclature or molecular structure. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claim, which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to substances capable of disrupting microtubule organising centre integrity. For completeness it is noted that it could not be established whether any of the countless number of substances disclosed in the prior art could have exhibited the above noted characteristics, if so tested.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Inter. Nat. Application No

PCT/GB 00/00785

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9706440 A	20-02-1997	KR 182853 B	15-05-1999
		AU 6671196 A	05-03-1997
		CN 1192807 A	09-09-1998
		EP 0843819 A	27-05-1998
		JP 11511251 T	28-09-1999